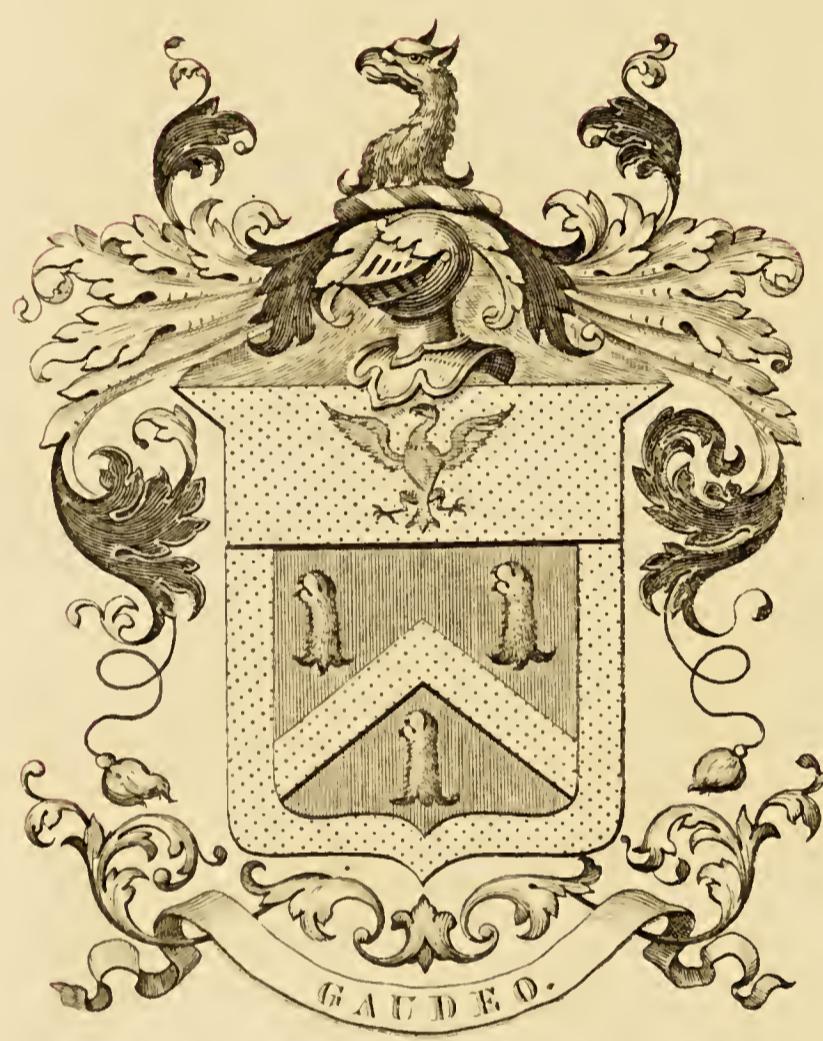
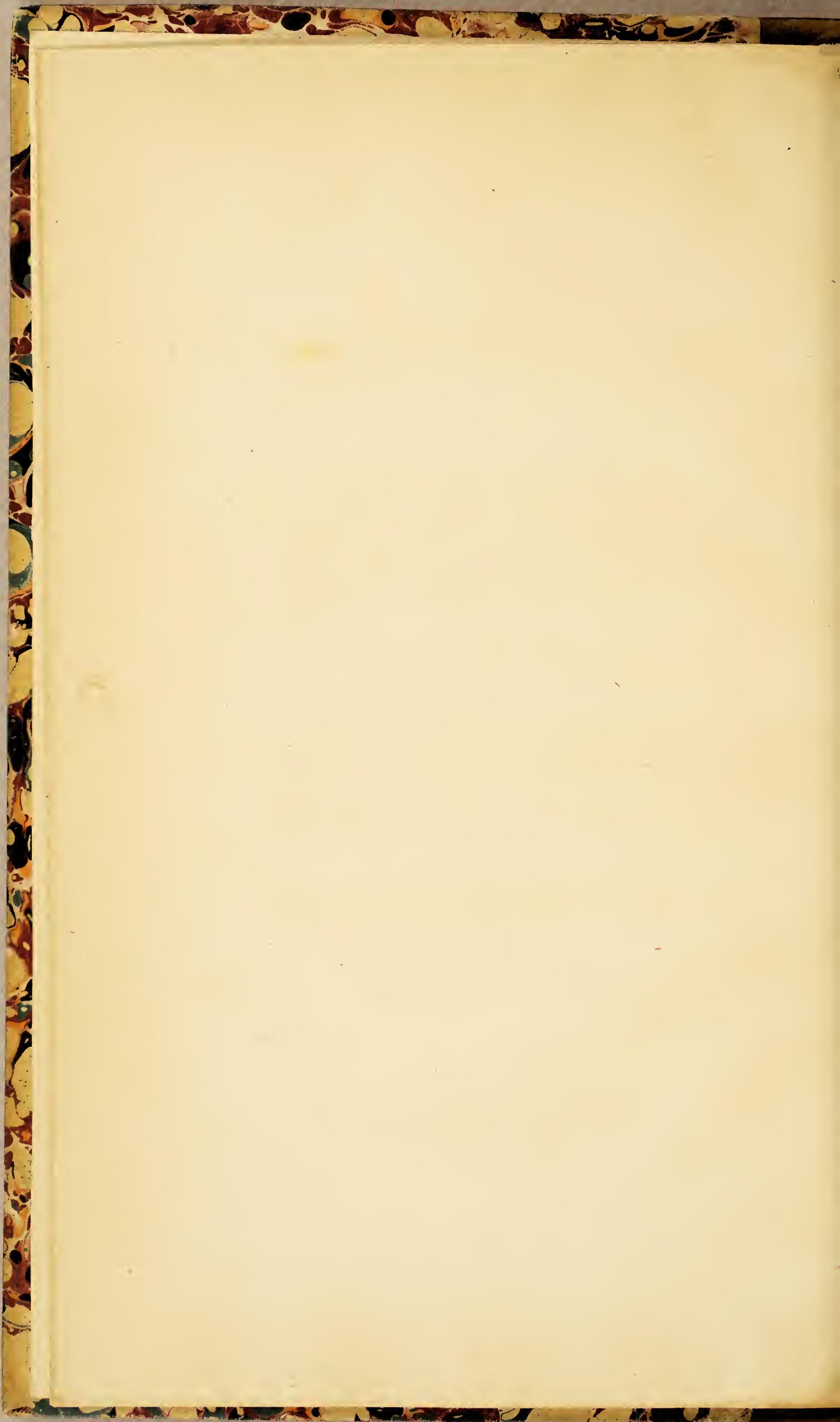


A19a



John Carter Brown.





THE HISTORY OF

A.

L E T T E R

F R O M

L E W I S XV.

T O

G ————— 1 M ————— t.

[ Price Six - Pence: ]

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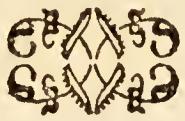
L E T T E R

B R O M

L E W I S XV.

General <sup>T O</sup> Mordaunt.

G-----l M-----t.



L O N D O N :

Printed for I. POTTERER, at the King's  
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MDCCLVII.

JOHN CARTER MOWN.

RPJCB



A

# L E T T E R

F R O M

L E W I S XV.

T O

G———l M———t. X



Worthy G——l,

Am well aware that the *Vul-*  
**I** *gar Part of thy Countrymen*  
have but a very rascally Opinion of Lewis XV; looking upon him in the Light of an ambitious Tyrant, a

B Violater

X General Mordaunt.

Violater of publick Faith, an Enemy to their Constitution, and I know not what. But believe, *sur mon honneur*, whatever Justice there may be in the Charges, which they bring against me, as to those Points, believe, that there is one Crime which I can never be guilty of, namely *Ingratitude*; and I should esteem myself one of the most ungrateful Scoundrels breathing if I was not to keep in Remembrance, during the longest Day I have to live, the infinite Obligations which I owe to G——M——t.

What two blessed Escapes have I had! One at Sea — for if *Bing* had fought us that Time — by G--d we should have been utterly undone: Ruined *Mon chere Ami*, to all Intents and Purposes: And now again at Land. But tell me truly, my dear M——t, (though I own one should not look a gift Horse in the Mouth) to what must I attribute  
my

my late Preservation, — to thy Regard for my Interests, or to thy invincible Stupidity—bnt 'tis no Matter ; for I hold myself equally indebted to you either Way — Perdition blast me if I do not.

I am sure I was never more concerned for any thing in my Life, than I was for poor *Bing*; and especially that he should suffer for his Good-Nature to me ; for I would have you to know, that I am of a truly heorick Disposition, and would make no-body suffer but my ENEMIES. But alas, how could I help it, when once those cursed Fellows had got him into their Clutches ? And truly, my dear *M——t*, I cannot help being a little uneasy, lest the Brutes should take it into their Heads to shoot thee too, now they have hold of you—but if it happens so, be comforted ; for the whole Court of *France* shall go in

into Mourning for thee, they shall, *ma Foy.*

Though let me tell you, Sir J—, I took it a little unkindly, that Attack of yours upon my Island of *Aix*; but I know you will say, It was necessary to preserve a Face: And I must own, the Temptation was great, considering it was intirely defenceless. So that on second Thoughts I easily pardon you, when I am in myself well assured too, that if there had been any one there to make Opposition, you would not have attempted it.

*Pitt* But G--d eternally confound that P--t! Sir, I have not met with any Thing a great while, which has vexed me so much, as his being intrusted with the Administration of the *British Affairs*, for he is Proof against both my Politicks and my Gold. However, one cannot expect

pect, that every Thing should go smack smooth at once; a few Rubs must accrue: Besides, I hear he is a great Favourite with the People at present, so that it is to be hoped, they will soon quarrel with him; or if they should not, let him lay Schemes and be d—d, while he makes Use of such Instruments as you, there will be no Danger in them.

I hear my Friend F— has a strong Party still, and I know he will not fail to augment it, by every Person that is to be bought. Well, however in the Rotation of Fortune's Wheel, that Man came to be a Minister of State, Nature certainly designed him for a Stock-Jobber; for buying and selling are the only Things he has a Notion of! But I would, by every Means possible, have venality and Corruption increased among you, if they will yet admit of an Increase?

But

*Fox*

But above all Things Party ; for there is nothing can forward my Designs so much as that. Be Whig and Tory, High Church and Low Church, Williamite and Jacobite, in short, bear any Names (though, like those, they have no proper Signification ) which may create a Difference, and set you together by the Ears, I am satisfied.

You know I intended to invade you ; nothing has prevented me from doing so, but that devilish Militia, which, if not put a Stop to, will defeat my Plan intirely. But your People, it seems, begin to murmur ; impudent Dogs ! but if ever they get under *French* Government, I'll teach them better Manners ; G--d d--n me, but I'll use them like Gally-slaves. Quere now, whether it would not be very proper, at the Opening of the next Parliament, for —— and ——— to display their Eloquence ? That Eloquence, which

which, as Counters may deceive us in their Chink, and pass for real Money, cheats the Understanding into an Opinion of its Solidity, when in Fact, it is nothing.

You see the Opinion I have of their Parts, but they are good enough to do Mischief; therefore I would have you advise them to make Use of the foolish People's Discontent, as a Handle to root out the Militia Bill. The Arguments they made against it, before it passed, will do, with a little of their tincel Embellishments. But I would have them have Recourse to any others, which they think their Capacities can manage, or their Wickedness invent. And when they have perfected the work — we will talk farther — you understand me — no Purchase, no Pay.

My

*George 3<sup>d</sup>*

My Brother G—e, (if I may call him my Brother, whom I hate so abominably) is too honest. Above Falshood, he thinks his ministers of the same Stamp. Now I, who am a d—d Lyar myself, always suspect my Servants.

*Prince of Wales.* But is it true, that the P—e of W—s is so hopeful a young Man; or is his good Character no more than the Effects of the same Flattery, which has often called that old Tyrant *Lewis* the XIV, a God, and me, his Great-grandson, another? If not, taint him, oh taint him, ye infernal Courtiers, and, if possible, make his Nature as vicious, as it is now aimable. Why if this Youth should turn out as he promises, I may have been reckoning all this Time without my Host.

But I will dwell upon this disagreeable Topick no longer. And now  
my

my dear *M-t*, as I look upon you as my Friend ; for indeed how can I in Justice do otherwise ? And as the best Proof I can give you of, my returning that Friendship , will be an Instance of my Confidence ; I will tell you the Scheme I have laid against *England*, as it is now fairly drawn out, and lock'd up here in my Cabinet at *Versailles*. And I leave you to judge whether it be not d—d clever, and as well calculated for Success as any Thing you have seen a gteat While.

But do not let me take to myself a Merit, which I have not the least Right to : The Scheme was laid by *Fleury* many Years ago, who intended to have carried it into Execution by Degrees. For though he did not love open Force, he was once of the most *Adroit* Fel-

lows in the World perhaps, at little Tricks, and undermining : And it was an Expression frequent in his Mouth, That there was less Danger in picking a Pocket, than in committing a Robbery.

When I clapped up a Peace with *England* in the Year forty-eight, it was not with Design to be Friends with her, for that is impossible. Fire and Water, and Man and Wife, may agree, but *France* and *England* can never ; they were form'd Enemies by Nature, like the Elephant and Rhenoceros, and however Policy may sometime dictate to them a seeming Cessation from Hatred, for that is the most we can ever pretend to arrive at, the old Rancour breaks out the first Opportunity.

It

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It was this Policy as I said before, which actuated me to clap up a Peace, in order that while you were lulled asleep in *Europe*, I might be the better enabled to steal your Dominions from you in *America*; or to confess ingeniously, I found myself a little weakened, and had a mind to lye by, untill I recoverd Strength sufficient to crush you at once.

But before I go any farther, I should not forget to tell you a Scheme of his, which was to be the Prologue to this Play, Tragedy to you, Comedy to us; I mean the late Rebellion.

Do you imagine, that I had any Thoughts of settling that wandering Vagabond, the Chevalier de St. George, upon the Throne of *Great Britain*? No,

C 2

all

all I desired was, to see the present Family out : However, I was careful not embarque too far with him you see, even in Hopes of that ; for I considered it, even then, as a precarious Piece of Busines: But if it had succeeded, I knew what would have been the Consequence ; even those People that imagined they wish'd for the Chevalier, would have been quickly tired of him ; and then I would have managed it so, that either K—g or Peo- ple, should have called me to their Af- fistance : If the former, I would have laid him under such Conditions, as to constitute him my Vassel at least : And if the latter, I would have turn'd him out directly, and with a Shew of milder Government, have set one of my own Family in his Room.

But

But I said, I had determed to pilfer your *American* Colonies from you, and between ourselves, I had proceeded a good Way before you found me out; when, like an impudent Thief, detected in the Fact, I was obliged to crrry that off with hectoring, which I could not deny, and contrary to my prestine Resolutions, to get that by Arms, which I was in Hopes to have procured by Cunning.

And what has been the Consequence of this? —— Why two Connexions almost as unnatural as that of *France* and *England* — you with the K—g <sup>King of</sup> *Prussia*. of P—ssia, and I with the E—ss <sup>Empress Queen.</sup> Q—n.

But you seem not to care much for your Ally; and to tell you a Secreet,

I care every bit as little for mine.  
 D—m her for a B—h, Does she ima-  
 gine that I would support her a Mo-  
 ment longer than it should prove for  
 my own Interest? Why I have as great  
 a Mind for her Dominions as I have for  
 yours; and if they were once in my Posse-  
 sion, I would not give a single *Louis D'or*  
*Empress Queen.* to save the E—ss Q—n, and the whole  
*Austria.* House of A——a, from the Pit of  
 Hell.

But I must leave Fortune to work  
 for me; for to tell the Truth, I like  
 frightening People better than beating  
 them, and while they, like you, anticipate  
 my Wishes, in overcoming themselves  
 for me, I think I may trust my Af-  
 fairs in her Hands without any Re-  
 luctance.

And

And perhaps, of all Nations under the Sun, the *English* should be the most pliable to a *French* Government. This looks like a Contradiction of what I advanced before; but the Hatred which the *English* express for the *French*, seems more Affectation, than ours for them.

They tear down a Play-House, because it supports a few *French* Dancers for their Entertainment, yet they admire both our Modes and Language, and will not scruple to maintain ten or twenty thousand of our People in other Capacities, though absolutely a Burthen to them.

Now here is the Difference; my Subjects could see *English* Dancers, if they excelled in their Art, not only with

with Patience but Pleasure, whereas all the rest they detest.

But now I must beg a Word or two about the six-hundred Prisoners you brought off with you, which is only this, to tell you that you are very wellcome to them, and to beg of you, that if there be any of your Nobility, who have yet *English* Domesticks, in their Hous-es, that you will have them displaced for some of these immediately; for I look upon such a Number of *French* Servants as an undoubted Fore-runner of *French* Masters.

In short, I would wish you, and the rest of my Friends, to do every Thing as I hear you are doing, to root out Honour, Virtue, Pratrotism, &c. &c. till quite debilitated you will be no longer able  
to

[ 21 ]

to avert the Stroke which I only want the  
Opportunity to give you.

My kind Love and Service to all  
the Gentleman who attended the late  
Expedition, especially your two Colleagues;  
and believe me to be dear *M——t*,

*Your Friend,*

*L O U I S.*



D P O S T-

35534

to the right of the village of  
and south of the town of  
Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia  
and Herzegovina, and the  
capital of the former Yugoslav







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